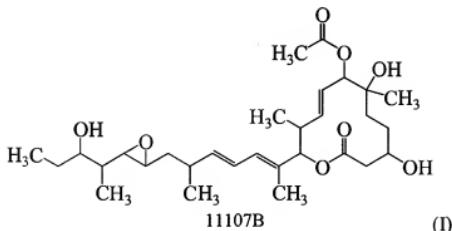
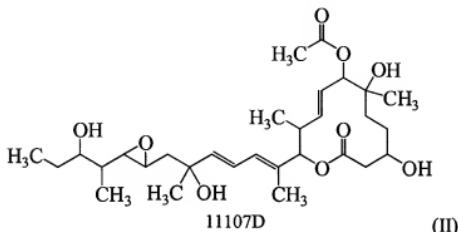


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A DNA participating in biological transformation of a macrolide compound (hereinafter referred to as a macrolide compound 11107B) represented by the formula (I):



into a 16-position hydroxy macrolide compound represented by the formula (II):



the DNA being an isolated and pure DNA comprising a DNA encoding a protein having 16-position hydroxylating enzymatic activity which is characterized by the following (a), (b), or (c):

(a) a DNA encoding a protein having the enzymatic activity to hydroxylate the 16-position of the macrolide compound 11107B, wherein the DNA is selected from the group consisting of (1) a continuous nucleotide sequence from base 1322 to base 2548 of SEQ ID NO: 1; (2) a continuous nucleotide sequence from base 420 to base 1604 of SEQ ID NO: 4; and (3) a continuous nucleotide sequence from base 172 to base 1383 of SEQ ID NO: 7;

(b) a DNA which has a nucleotide sequence having 90% or more identity over the full length sequence with the DNA described in (a);

(c) a DNA encoding a protein having the same amino acid sequence as the protein encoded by the DNA described in (a) or (b) though it does not have 90% or more identity with the DNA described in (a) because of the degeneracy of a gene codon.

2-3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) A self-replicative or integrating replicative recombinant plasmid carrying the DNA as claimed in Claim 1.

5. (Previously Presented) An isolated transformant obtained by transformation of the recombinant plasmid of claim 4.

6-16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The DNA according to claim 1, wherein the DNA comprises bases 1322-2548 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

18. (Previously Presented) The DNA according to claim 1, wherein the DNA encodes a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO: 2.

19. (Previously Presented) The DNA according to claim 1, wherein the DNA consists of bases 1322-2548 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

20. (Previously Presented) The DNA according to claim 1, wherein the DNA encodes a polypeptide consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2.

21. (Previously Presented) The DNA according to claim 1, wherein said identity in (b) and (c) of claim 1 is 95% or more.

22. (Previously Presented) A DNA comprising

(a) a DNA encoding a protein, wherein the DNA is selected from the group consisting of (1) a continuous nucleotide sequence from base 1322 to base 2548 of SEQ ID NO: 1; (2) a continuous nucleotide sequence from base 420 to base 1604 of SEQ ID NO: 4; and a continuous nucleotide sequence from base 172 to base 1383 of SEQ ID NO: 7;

(b) a DNA which has a nucleotide sequence having 90% or more identity over the full length sequence with the DNA described in (a); or

(c) a DNA encoding a protein having the same amino acid sequence as the protein encoded by the DNA described in (a) or (b) though it does not have 90% or more identity with the DNA described in (a) because of the degeneracy of a gene codon.

23. (Previously Presented) The DNA according to claim 22, wherein said identity in (b) and (c) of claim 22 is 95% or more.

24-31. (Cancelled).